GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:684
ANSWERED ON:12.07.2004
POLLUTION IN DELHI
Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the national capital is still one of the most polluted cities of Asia as per the latest study done by the Boston based Health Effects Institute;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) A report has been compiled by the Health Effects Institute, Boston, United States of America entitled "Health Effects of Outdoor Air Pollution in Developing Countries of Asia" during April, 2004. The report is based on literature survey of Epidemiological studies of outdoor air pollution and the estimated impact on the health of the people due to short term exposure to air pollution. As per this study, Delhi has been recorded as one of the major Asian cities facing high levels of suspended particulate matter based on the data collected during 2000-2001. The recent study of Central Pollution Control Board in coordination with Delhi Pollution Control Committee has reported that the levels of Sulphur dioxide (SO2) and Lead (Pb) has been decreasing due to various steps taken for the control of pollution in Delhi, but the levels of Particulates still exceed the stipulated standards.

(c) A number of steps have been taken to control air pollution from various sources. These include -

- Implementation of Charter on Corporate Responsibility for Environmental Protection in respect of 17 categories of industries.
- Enforcement of auto exhaust emission standards for new vehicles at manufacturing stage.
- Improved fuel quality.
- Use of beneficiated coal in the thermal power stations.
- Notification of source specific emission standards for generator sets, firecrackers and other industries.